CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for selecting a delivery mechanism for a message, comprising:

creating, by a sender of the message, a priority table of delivery devices of a recipient of the message;

selecting a delivery device from the priority table having the highest priority and sending the message to the selected device; and

continuing, if the recipient did not receive the message using the highest priority delivery device, to sequentially select another delivery device according to the priority table and send the message to the selected delivery device, until the recipient receives the message.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining the reachability of the recipient before sending the message to the selected delivery device.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein if the message has not been delivered to the recipient after the last delivery device has been selected, selection of delivery devices begins again, starting with the highest priority delivery device in the priority table, after a predetermined time has expired.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the priority table is configured in a way that all messages are sent to the recipient using a particular delivery device.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the priority table comprises a name/ID of the recipient, the delivery device, and a delivery address for the delivery device.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the priority table is configured in a way that a delivery device is selected according to time of day and day of week.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the priority table comprises a name/ID of the recipient, a list of delivery times and dates, delivery devices corresponding to the delivery times and dates, and delivery addresses corresponding to the delivery devices.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the priority table is configured in a way that the first delivery device selected to send a current message is the same device used to deliver a previous message to the recipient, and the previous message was delivered within a predetermined amount of time before the current message is sent.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the priority table is configured in a way that the first delivery device selected to send a current message is a same type of device as the type of device used by the sender to create the message.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the sender sends a message to one or more recipients and creates a priority table for each recipient.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the delivery device comprises one of a 3G wireless device, a mobile phone, a fixed telephone, a personal computer, a facsimile device, a pager, and a personal digital assistant.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein a format of the message comprises one of a voice message, a text message, an electronic mail message, an instant message, a short message service message, and a video message.

13. A system for selecting a delivery mechanism of a message, comprising:

a preferences and profile database containing a priority table, created by a sender of the message, of delivery devices of a recipient of the message; and

a priority delivery selection logic unit selecting a delivery device from the priority table having the highest priority and sending the message to the selected device, and continuing, if the recipient did not receive the message using the highest

priority delivery device, to sequentially select another delivery device according to the priority table and send the message to the selected delivery device, until the recipient receives the message.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the priority delivery selection logic unit and the preferences and profiles database are located within a store and forward portion of a multimedia messaging system.

15. The system of claim 13, further comprising determining the reachability of the recipient before sending the message to the selected delivery device.

16. A computer-readable storage controlling a computer to select a delivery mechanism for a message and comprising a process of:

creating, by a sender of the message, a priority table of delivery devices of a recipient of the message;

selecting a delivery device from the priority table having the highest priority and sending the message to the selected device; and

continuing, if the recipient did not receive the message using the highest priority delivery device, to sequentially select another delivery device according to the priority table and send the message to the selected delivery device, until the recipient receives the message.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising determining the reachability of the recipient before sending the message to the selected delivery device.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein if the message has not been delivered to the recipient after the last delivery device has been selected, selection of delivery devices begins again, starting with the highest priority delivery device in the priority table, after a predetermined time has expired.